

REMARKS

Claims 44-54 were rejected as being anticipated by Brandenburg. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The subject matter of claim 48 has been added to that of independent claim 1 and claim 48 cancelled.

Brandenburg teaches to the production of a tubular lining hose that is formed outside of a pipe by winding foil strips around a mandrel and then introducing the finished lining hose into, e.g., a sewer pipe.

The mandrel 1 around which the strips are wound is best shown in Fig. 2 of Brandenburg:

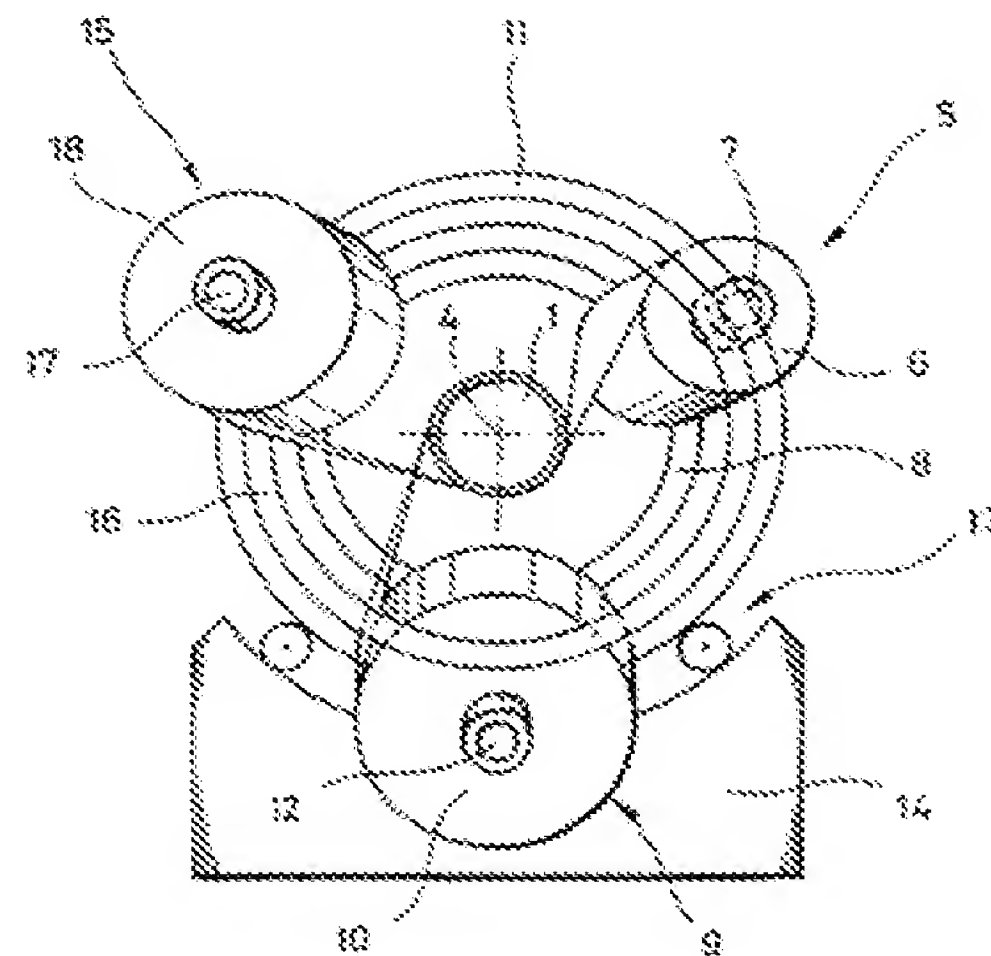


FIG. 2

Strip 24 is first wound around the mandrel 1 (Col. 9, lines 63-66):

In the following, one variant of the method according to the present invention will be explained in detail on the basis of the drawings.

A first foil strip 24 is taken from the foil-strip roll 6 and attached to the winding mandrel 1, whereupon it is helically wound onto said winding mandrel 1 by rotary movements of the first reception means 5.

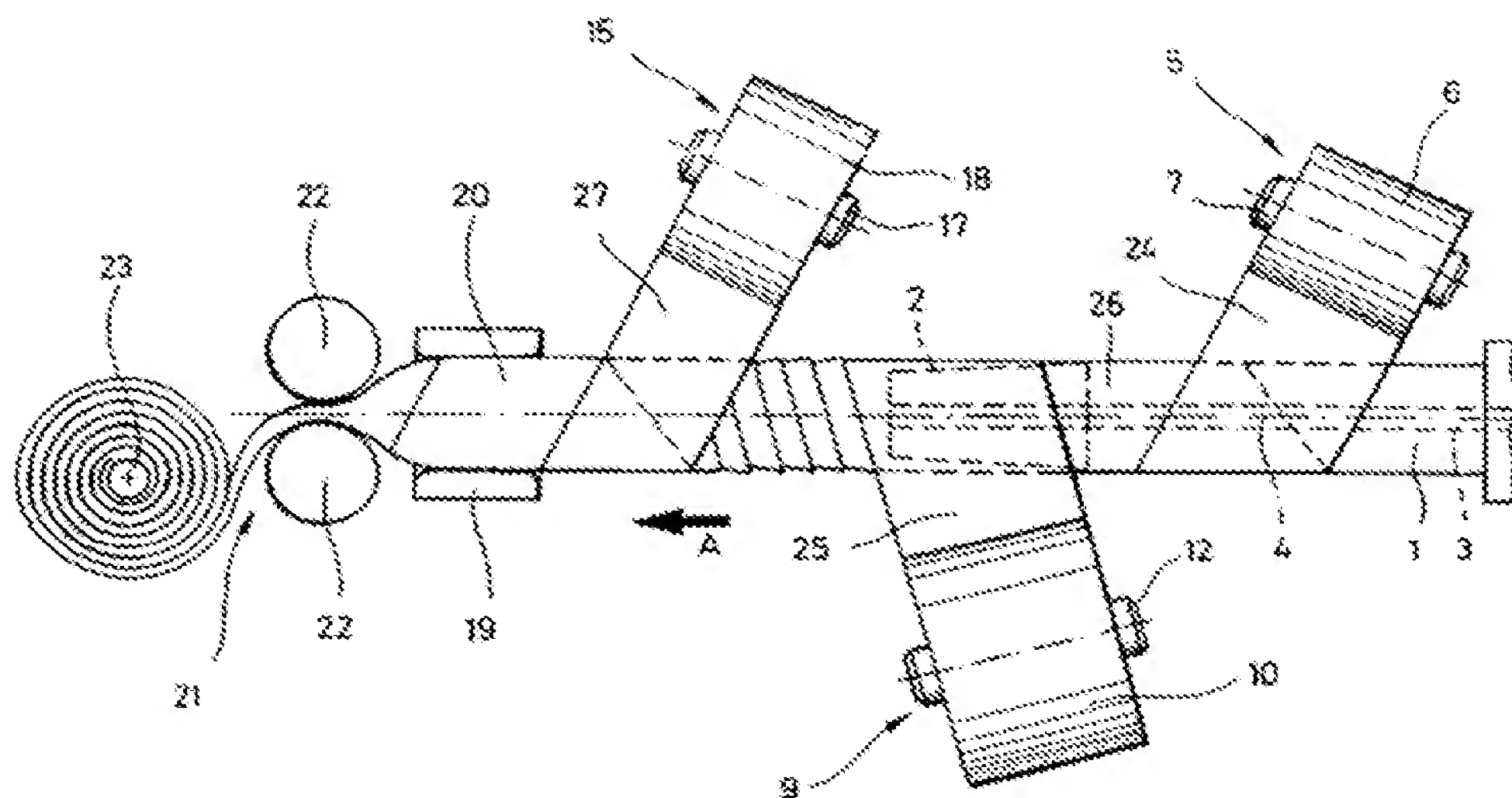
Then, a second, fibrous strip 25 is then wound onto an inner foil hose 26 (Col. 10, Lines 23-25):

In the area of the blow nozzle 2, a fibrous strip 25, which is impregnated with resin, is now helically wound onto the inner foil hose 26 with the aid of the second reception means 9.

Then, a third strip 27 is wound onto the second strip 25:

Subsequently, a second foil strip 27 is wound onto the wound, resin-impregnated fibrous strip 25; the direction of the lead of said second foil strip 27 is again opposite to that of the lead of the fibrous strip 25.

The three strips are best seen in Brandenburger's Fig. 1:



The finished lining hose may then be introduced into the sewer pipe and given its final shape using water or air pressure (Col. 11, lines 20-23):

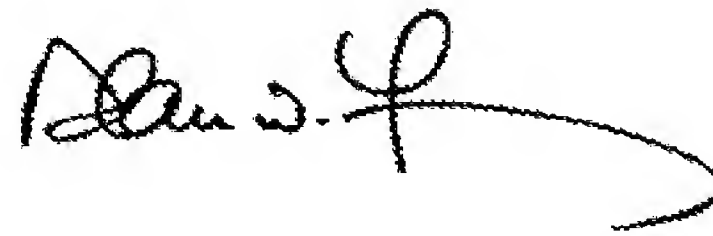
The lining hose 20, which has been produced in this way, can then be introduced in the manner known into a sewer to be reconstructed and, subsequently, it can be given its final shape by means of compressed air or water pressure.

In contrast, claim 44 defines a method in a step of lining the pipe with the structural layer includes introducing at least one strip to the pipe, and arranging the strip(s) in the pipe to form a substantially continuous lining within said pipe. Indeed, lining the pipe with the structural layer includes arranging the strip(s) by helically winding the strip(s) in the pipe to form a plurality of turns, each turn being in substantial helical contact with a previous turn, to form a substantially continuous tubular structural layer within the pipe, as claimed.

Brandenburger does not teach any of these steps, as he teaches to wind strips around a mandrel outside of the target pipe, and only thereafter to introduce the completed hose lining into the pipe. The lining steps carried out within the pipe recited in claims 44-54 are simply not taught in Brandenburger. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the 35 USC §102(b) rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Applicants believe that this application is now in condition for allowance. If any unresolved issues remain, please contact the undersigned attorney of record at the telephone number indicated below and whatever is necessary to resolve such issues will be done at once.

Respectfully submitted,



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By: _____

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